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Title:

Statement: Electoral boundaries - Corcoran comments

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STATEMENT

from the Premier

Date... April 1, 1976.....

Embargo.....

State Administration Centre,
Victoria Square, Adelaide,
South Australia 5001
228 4811

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES - CORCORAN COMMENTS.

Commenting on the release of submissions on the Electoral Commission's first day of public hearings, the Acting Premier, Mr. Des Corcoran, said misrepresentation of the Labor Party's submissions being distributed by the Liberal Party was completely false.

"The most vital point - which must be stressed very strongly - is that it is up to the Electoral Commission, which is a completely independent body headed by a Judge, to draw the boundaries.

"The boundaries are not being determined by either the Liberal Party, the Liberal Movement, or the Labor Party. The Electoral Commission - as a completely independent body - would not be influenced by the type of biased interpretations published today.

"For the first time in Australia we have a system of electoral redistribution which is completely fair, completely independent, and which enshrines the principle of electoral justice.

"It is electoral justice, not the redistribution, which the Liberal Party is afraid of".

Mr. Corcoran said it was impossible to predict future voting results from any proposal put to the Electoral Commission because voting patterns changed very significantly from electorate to electorate over time.

"At least half a dozen marginal seats have been created in the Labor Party submission, and with new candidates standing for these seats it is completely inappropriate and misleading to strictly transfer past voting figures to the areas encompassed by the suggested seats.

"The results in those half dozen marginal seats will determine the fate of the Government.

"But I must repeat that it is not up to any Party to determine these boundaries; the Electoral Commission will have the final say on these submissions", Mr. Corcoran said.



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